

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 EA-10 SS-15 OES-07
DOE-11 SOE-02 SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
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-----046447 190359Z /66

R 180326Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 070120

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, VM, UR

SUBJECT: STATUS OF SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
VIS-A-VIS NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

1. SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) HAS NOT INDICATED
TO THE USG WHETHER IT WISHES TO BE CONSIDERED AN NPT PARTY
BASED ON PRIOR ADHERENCE BY THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM OR
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ADHERE AS NEW PARTY IN ITS OWN RIGHT. THE US AS A DE-
POSITARY GOVERNMENT, WITH WHICH THE ROV DEPOSITED ITS NPT
RATIFICATION INSTRUMENT, LISTS THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AS
AN NPT PARTY AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO UNTIL WE RECEIVE
SOME INDICATION AS TO WHAT THE SRV WISHES TO DO. NORTH
VIETNAM WAS NOT A PARTY.

2. BEGIN FYI: LAST YEAR A VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL INFORMED IAEA THAT THE SRV DID NOT WISH TO BE CONSIDERED A PARTY TO THE NPT BASED ON SOUTH VIETNAM'S ADHERENCE. THIS FORM OF NOTIFICATION, HOWEVER, IS NOT VALID AS DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENTS MUST BE INFORMED OF ADHERENCE OR CHANGES IN STATUS. THE THREE DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENTS FOR THE NPT ARE THE USSR, THE UK, AND THE US. END FYI.

3. SRV HAS RECENTLY EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN REACTIVATING FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE RESEARCH REACTOR, EVALUATING URANIUM ORE, AND IN TRAINING VIETNAMESE IN INDIAN NUCLEAR TRAINING PROGRAM. THE SRV HAS FORMALLY INDICATED TO IAEA THAT IT WISHES TO ASSUME THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM'S SEAT IN THAT BODY.

4. THE US STRONGLY ENCOURAGES UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE NPT AND WE WOULD PREFER TO LIST THE SRV AS A PARTY. WE BELIEVE THAT ENCOURAGING THE SOVIETS AS A DEPOSITARY GOVERNMENT TO CLARIFY SRV'S STATUS AND THEREBY HOPEFULLY TO ENCOURAGE SRV ADHERENCE WOULD BE THE MOST PROMISING WAY OF OBTAINING VIETNAMESE ADHERENCE. EMBASSY IS THEREFORE REQUESTED TO RAISE SUBJECT WITH APPROPRIATE SOVIET AUTHORITIES AND ASSESS DEGREE OF COOPERATION WE CAN EXPECT.

5. EMBASSY MAY ALSO WISH TO COMMENT ON POSSIBILITY OF
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CORPORATION BY SOVIETS ON OBTAINING ADHERENCE OF RELUCTANT
NON-PARTIES. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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